

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13  
ACDA-07 ARA-06 /080 W  
-----121400Z 010932 /44

R 120931Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
SECSTATE WASHDC 3069  
INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ADDIS ABABA 1477

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: POL  
SUBJ: INTERVIEW WITH OSMAN SALEH SABBI

1. STARS AND STRIPES MARCH 9 CARRIED AP DESPATCH FROM  
BEIRUT (UNDATED) REPORTING APPEAL BY OSMAN SALEH SABBI ON  
BEHALF OF ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT (ELF) TO PRESIDENT  
CARTER TO STOP CUBA FROM SENDING TROOPS INTO ETHIOPIA.

2. ACCORDING ARTICLE, OSMAN SAID "WE HAVE SOLID INFO THAT  
ETHIOPIAN MILITARY RULERS HAVE ASKED... CASTRO TO DESPATCH  
CUBAN TROUPS ... CASTRO HAS TENTATIVELY AGREED AND AN  
ADVANCE PARTY OF GUERRILLA-WARFARE CUBAN EXPERTS IS ALREADY  
IN ADDIS (PRESUMABLY A REFERENCE TO 5-MAN CUBAN DELEGATION THAT  
VISITED ADDIS FEB 20-28, ADDIS 1255-NOTEL). OSMAN REPORTEDLY  
ADDED THAT EPMG PLANNED USE CUBANS TO PUT DOWN ERITREAN  
REBELLION, AND THEN WAS REPORTED AS SAYING "WE APPEAL TO  
PRESIDENT CARTER , AS A TRUE MAN OF PRINCIPLES, TO HELP HEAD OFF  
ANY EXTERNAL INTERVENTION IN ERITREA. I DON'T THINK THE  
UNITED STATES WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ANOTHER ANGOLA ON ITS HANDS.  
NOR DO I THINK ARAB OIL GIANTS WOULD BE HAPPY TO SEE THEIR  
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RED SEA TANKER ROUTES WITHIN RANGE OF CUBAN GUNS."  
3. AFTER NOTING SITUATION IN ERITREA IS IMPROVING FROM POINT  
OF VIEW OF SECESSIONISTS AND PREDICTING THAT INDEPENDENCE WILL  
BE DECLARED ONCE ASMARA HAS BEEN LIBERATED, " PROBABLY WITHIN SIX  
MONTHS", HE REPORTEDLY ADDED "I WANT PRESIDENT CARTER TO  
KNOW THAT WE STILL ARE OPEN TO NEGOTIATIONS FOR A PEACEFUL  
SETTLEMENT THAT WOULD AVOID FURTHER BLOODSHED."

4. COMMENT: FIRST WE HAVE HEARD OF ANY SECESSIONIST APPEAL  
TO USG. CAN BEIRUT ADD ANYTHING?

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, INTERVENTION, PROVINCE, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 12-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977ADDIS01477  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** DG IS GS  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770086-0143  
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**From:** ADDIS ABABA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770366/aaaacfvvp.tel  
**Line Count:** 65  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 179c24b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3128416  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INTERVIEW WITH OSMAN SALEH SABBI  
**TAGS:** MPOL, PDEV, SOPN, CU, ET, ELF, (OSMAN SALEH SABBI)  
**To:** BEIRUT STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/179c24b9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009